GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2216
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2016
Shortage of Medical Officers in ECHS Polyclinics
Singh Dr. Prabhas Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Medical officers, specialists, nurses and paramedical staff in various Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) polyclinics and the Armed forces medical facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage;

(c) whether all the posts of doctors and paramedical / non-medical staff reserved for Ex-servicemen have been filled;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Authorized and in position strength of Medical Officers, Specialists and Para-Medical staff (which also includes Nursing Assistants) in Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) Polyclinics is as under:
S. No. Category Authorised In Position

(i) Medical Specialists 322 168
(ii) Medical Officers 953 700
(iii) Para Medical Staff 2523 1872

2. To ameliorate the situation, the remuneration of Officer-in-Charge Polyclinic, Specialist, Medical Officer, Dental Officer and Para-medical staff has been increased.

3. Primarily, Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) cater to entitled serving personnel and their dependents if there is spare capacity to treat in AFMS, then members of ECHS are provided treatment with requisite facilities.
(c) & (d): No, Madam. The reasons for non filling of posts of Doctors and Para-Medical / Non-Medical staff reserved for Ex-Servicemen are as under:-
(i)

Ex-Servicemen (ESM) not applying for the Medical Officers / Specialists and Para-Medical / Non-Medical posts of ECHS Polyclinics due to low remuneration.
(ii) Non availability of suitable ESM in certain places.
(iii) Resignations due to various reasons.
(iv) Staff is employed on contract basis for a period of two years at the maximum, subject to review of their conduct and performance after eleven months and recruitment process is time consuming.

(e) Wide publicity is being given to fill up the vacancies through Army Placement Agency, Kendriya Sainik Board / Rajya Sainik Board / Zila Sainik Board, Directorate General of Resettlement and advertisements through National / Regional Newspapers, ECHS website etc.

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